



The Rural District Council
of Gainsborough

REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year
1950

GAINSBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Chairman :

J. J. ALLEN, J.P., Scotton

Vice-Chairman :

A. SMITHSON, Morton

Clerk of the Council :

EDGAR A. DONSON,

R.D.C. Offices, 17, Morley Street, Gainsborough

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STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT :

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. J. C. MACARTNEY, M.D. (Edin.), D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

E. DONELLY, A.I.S.E., C.R.S.I.

Gainsborough Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1950

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
GAINSBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

Sir, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting this Annual Report for the year 1950. The information given is in accordance with prescribed requirements for submission to certain Ministries and other bodies.

A very satisfactory state of health of the people was maintained. The Death Rate, per 1,000 of the population (11.4) compared very favourably with that for all England and Wales (11.6). The Birth Rate on the same basis (19.2) was much higher than that for the whole country (15.8). Another pleasing item was the low Infantile Mortality Rate (25.5 deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births). The National figure was 29.8. This is a creditable reflection on the County Health Services, as well as on local social and economic conditions. There was no serious incidence of infectious disease, beyond a large number of measles and whooping cough cases. One case of Diphtheria occurred at a squatters' camp. This was considered to have been imported. We were fortunate in having no secondary cases. There were no deaths from the acute infectious diseases.

In conclusion, I wish to express to the Council my gratitude for their very helpful consideration of Public Health matters. I am also grateful to Mr. Donelly, Sanitary Inspector and to Mr. Strother, Water Engineer for their valued help at all times. Likewise, I wish to include Mr. Donson, Clerk of the Council and his staff for their constant interest and assistance in this department.

Yours faithfully,

J. C. MACARTNEY,
M.D. (Edin.), D.P.H.

SECTION A.

1. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the Rural District	78,598 acres
Estimated Population	12,200
Rateable Value on the 31st March, 1950	£39,916
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£161

The district is entirely rural in character and the sole industry is agriculture. It surrounds the Urban District of Gainsborough on three sides. The Northern and Southern extremities are seventeen miles apart and the greatest width is eleven miles. Parts of the Parishes of Lea and Morton, adjoining Gainsborough town, are semi-residential. There are thirty-seven parishes and the Council consists of thirty-two Councillors.

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	120	115	235
Legitimate	112	110	222
Illegitimate	8	5	13
Still Births	4	—	4
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population			19.2

	Male	Female	Total
DEATHS. All causes	67	73	140
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population			11.4

	Male	Female	Total
DEATHS. Infants under 1 year ...	4	2	6
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)			25.5

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	4	4
Tuberculosis, other	1	1	2
Infective and parasitic disease	—	1	1
Cancer	6	11	17
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	—	2
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	13	20
Coronary disease, angina	8	5	13
Hypertension with heart disease	4	4	8
Other heart disease	7	12	19
Other circulatory disease	2	3	5
Influenza	3	—	3
Pneumonia	4	1	5
Bronchitis	3	3	6
Other diseases of respiratory system...	1	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	11	20
Accidents (other than motor vehicle)	6	—	6
	<hr/> 67	<hr/> 73	<hr/> 140

COMPARATIVE TABLES.

Births:				Birth†
Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate
1950	120	115	235	19.2
1949	106	93	199	16.3
1948	129	113	242	22.16
1947	107	105	212	20.26
1946	111	95	206	18.18

Deaths:				Death†
Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate
1950	67	73	140	11.4
1949	67	52	119	9.7
1948	63	56	119	10.8
1947	72	59	131	12.52
1946	53	56	109	10.5

Infantile Mortality:

Year	†Rate
1950	25.5
1949	55.0
1948	28.9
1947	33.0
1946	29.1

	†Birth Rate	†Death Rate	†Infant Mortality
England and Wales	15.8	11.6	29.8
126 Great Towns	17.6	12.3	33.8
148 Smaller Towns	16.7	11.6	29.4
London	17.8	11.8	26.3
Gainsborough Rural District	19.2	11.4	25.5

† Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.

‡ Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

A. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Health Information.

Enquiries relating to local health services may be made of the Medical Officer of Health, 10/12, Lord Street, Gainsborough. The County Medical Officer is Dr. W. S. H. Campbell, O.B.E., County Offices, Lincoln.

Many various facilities are available under the following headings:—

Maternity Service.

Child Care.

Home Nursing.

Health Visitors.

Home Helps.

Sick Room Requisites, appliances and other equipment.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Mental Health.

Ambulance Service.

Minor Ailment Clinics for School Children.

Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Clinics.

The County Council's clinics function at Gainsborough as follows:—

(a) At Spital Terrace Clinic

Minor Ailments Clinic	Daily 9-30 a.m.
School Clinic	Tuesdays 2 p.m.
Infant Welfare Centre	Thursdays 2 p.m.
Toddlers Clinic	2nd Friday and 4th Monday in each month 10 a.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic	1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday in each month 10 a.m.
Dental Clinic. Vaccination and Immunisation	By appointment.
Sunlight Clinic	Mondays and Thursdays 10 a.m.
Domestic Help Service	Organiser attends Thursdays 2 p.m.

(b) At Woods Terrace Clinic

Infant Welfare Centre	Mondays 2 p.m., Tuesdays 10 a.m. except 4th Tuesday in month.
Ante-Natal Clinic	1st, 3rd and 5th Monday in month 10 a.m.
Toddlers Clinic	2nd Monday and 4th Friday 10 a.m.

In addition to above, appointments are also made at the John Coupland or other Hospital for school and pre-school children requiring Ophthalmic or Ear, Nose and Throat consultant services. A Rheumatism and Heart specialist is also available.

SECTION C.

WATER SUPPLY.

- (i) The water supplied by the Council is derived from the following sources and during the year was satisfactory both in quality and quantity:—
- (1) Council's own boreholes at Glentham and Caenby, west of the Lincolnshire Wolds.
 - (2) Bulk supply from Lincoln Corporation, the supply being derived from boreholes at Elkesley in Nottinghamshire.
 - (3) Bulk supply from Glanford Brigg Rural District Council for the hamlet of Susworth only (i.e., 35 properties in the Scotter Parish).
- (ii) Samples for Bacteriological and Chemical examinations were taken periodically and the results were satisfactory.
- (iii) The water has no plumbo-solvent action.
- (iv) No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination as no adverse reports were received.

(v)

HOUSES.

Parish.	Total No.	No. with piped supplies.
Blyborough	47	47
Blyton	238	214
Brampton	25	24
Corringham	123	90
East Ferry	44	36
East Stockwith	97	96
Fenton	75	74
Fillingham	65	39
Gate Burton	22	20
Glentworth	78	54
Grayingham	32	23
Hardwick	Supplied by Lincoln Corporation	
Harpwell	21	16
Heapham	39	32
Hemswell	93	83
Kettlethorpe	47	44
Kexby	106	97
Knaith	48	47
Laughton	64	59
Lea	180	179
Marton	117	97
Morton	Supplied by Gainsborough U.D.C.	
Newton-on-Trent	71	65
Northorpe	53	33
Pilham	16	12
Scotter	313	300
Scotton	79	62
Springthorpe	41	39
Stow	104	84

(v)

HOUSES.

Parish.	Total No.	No. with piped supplies.
Sturton-by-Stow	171	146
Thonock	21	—
Torksey	50	26
Upton	65	50
Walkerith	22	22
Wildsworth	29	24
Willingham	126	77
Willoughton	140	120
Total ...	2862	2431

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Sewerage and sewage disposal schemes are about to be carried out for the villages of Blyton, Scotter and Scotton, and schemes for Morton, Lea and Knaith Park have been prepared and await the sanction of the Ministry.

REFUSE COLLECTION, SCAVENGING.

A direct labour house refuse removal service is in operation throughout the district. There is also a night-soil removal service in operation in the parish of Morton.

SECTION D.**HOUSING.**

New Houses. 40 new houses were completed during the year. 22 by the Council and 18 by private enterprise. 7 more additional units of family accommodation were provided by private enterprise as a result of the conversion and alteration of existing properties. 53 further new houses were under construction in the district at the end of the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1936. — PART IV — OVERCROWDING.

(a) (I)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	20
(II)	Number of families therein	24
(III)	Number of persons dwelling therein	128
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	6
(c) (I)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	16
(II)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	64
(d)	Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved	Nil

**POST-WAR HOUSING ACCOMMODATION
TO 31st DECEMBER, 1950.**

TOTALS.

Council Houses	150
Private Enterprise Houses	81

This housing record compares very favourably with the achievements of other Rural Districts in the County.

SECTION E.

INSPECTIONS AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The provision of uncontaminated and unadulterated food supply is a problem of vital importance. Food, whether in transport, in shops, stalls, or in the home may be exposed to contamination of all descriptions through carelessness or ignorance of the danger involved. The Sanitary Inspector exercises tact and watchfulness in his inspections and supervision of food. Food byelaws are being adopted, but legislation alone will not solve the problem. Proper education and goodwill of all concerned are needed in the pursuit of common cleanliness. Food poisoning is now notifiable, but no outbreaks due to identified agents or undiscovered causes were brought to my notice.

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Reference has already been made regarding the incidence of these diseases during the year. The following tables show the detailed statistics.

DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES.

	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Pneu- monia	Poliomyelitis Paralytic	Non- Paralytic	Malaria	Diph- theria	Erysipe- las	Tuberculosis Pulm. Non-Pulm
Blyborough	16	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blyton	8	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Brampton	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corringham	8	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
East Stockwith	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Fenton	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gate Burton	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glentworth	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Grayingham	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hardwick	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harpwell	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heapham	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hemswell	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hemswell R.A.F.	48	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Kettlethorpe	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kexby	4	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Knaith	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Pneu- monia	Poliomyelitis		Malaria	Diph- theria	Erysipe- las	Tuberculosis	
					Paralytic	Non- Paralytic				Pulm.	Non-Pulm
Brought forward	111	5	23	3	1	1	1	1	—	1	1
Laughton	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lea	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marton	18	—	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Morton	29	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Newton-on-Trent	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northorpe	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pilham	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scotter	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scotton	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stow	15	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sturton-by-Stow	22	1	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Thonock	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Torksey	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Upton	11	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Walkerith	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Willingham	9	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Willoughton	16	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	246	13	72	4	2	1	1	1	1	5	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	—	—	2	15	15	9	16	5	1	1	64	118	246
Scarlet Fever	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	3	13
Whooping Cough	3	6	2	2	29	14	7	2	2	1	1	3	72
Pneumonia	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	4	9	7	18	46	24	25	8	5	5	66	124	341

TUBERCULOSIS.

Ages	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—5	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	1
10—15	—	—	—	—
15—25	—	3	—	1
25—45	2	—	—	—
45—65	—	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—
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Totals	2	3	—	2
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DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
M.	F.	M.	F.
—	4	1	1
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Total 6			

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948. PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	22	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	51	—	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	Nil	Nil
Total	53	22	Nil	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT. OUTWORK. Sections 110 and 111.

.....Nil

